

Human Services Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, January 9, 2003  
5:00 P.M.  
City Hall Kiva  
3939 Drinkwater Boulevard  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Present: Vice-Chair Fausel, Commissioners Dave Bachmann, Jim Broshar, Alik Coudroglou and Seymour Resnick

Absent: Chairman John Bitenc and Commissioner Brigita Bilsens

Staff Present: Connie James, Jan Cameron, Vicki French, Valerie Kime Trujillo, John Larrivee, Tim Miluk, Amy Pendleton, and Mary Kay Rieke

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-chair Fausel called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 12, 2002 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Resnick moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2002 Regular meeting as read. Commissioner Coudroglou seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ELECTIONS OF HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

In accordance with the By-Laws, the Commission elects a new Chairman and Vice-Chairman at the first regular meeting of the calendar year. Vice-chair Fausel asked for nominations for Chairman. Commissioner Broshar nominated Vice-chair Fausel. Commissioner Resnick seconded. Vice-chair Fausel closed the nominations. The nomination was unanimously approved. Vice-chair Fausel requested nominations for Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Resnick nominated Commissioner Bachmann. Vice-chair Fausel seconded and closed the nominations. The nomination was unanimously approved. Chairwoman Fausel and Vice-Chair Bachmann fill their positions beginning this evening.

AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) STATUS REPORT

Tom Beat, Special Projects Manager, gave an update on issues and status regarding ADA.

Chairwoman Fausel asked when the ADA Coordinator would be with the city. Mr. Beat said that Studio 4 will be evaluating the need and whether the city has the ability to implement a time, based on its budgetary status; until then, there is no planned date.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUDGET

Bill Exham, Community Services General Manager, provided a Community Service Budget update.

Vice-chair Bachmann asked who decides what CIP projects are delayed. Mr. Exham said that there is a citywide committee, with representatives from every department, who review the CIP projects. Then the citizen budget committee reviews the CIP projects, then the city manager and finally the City Council decides the projects that should be delayed. The decisions are based on the basic things that need to be done now and are most important e.g., public safety,

no other alternatives or perhaps the loss of funds. Mr. Exham said that many of the projects that need new operational costs, would most likely be delayed.

Commissioner Resnick asked about the delay in the McDowell Mountain Aquatic park and if the delay is due to the economy or the objections of citizens. Mr. Exham said that the delay is not due to the economy, but is due to the survey of many sites by staff. Although staff recommended that the McDowell Mountain site is the best, some members of the City Council felt that there needed to be more investigation of sites, particularly the DC Ranch site, before moving ahead.

Commissioner Resnick asked about the new Senior Center and what the timeline is, and what would happen to the old senior center. Mr. Exham said that first, the community meeting that is pending is not to review the new plans for the new senior center, but to review what could happen on the total site. A variety of groups submitted proposals and those proposals will be reviewed by the neighborhood. Second, the original plans for building a new senior center made the assumption that the old senior center would be sold, once the new one was built, because it is the same service center and the new one would be significantly larger. During the public discussion phase, a number of seniors wanted the old site maintained. So, we are looking at what to use the old site for if it is not sold and if they do support additional senior services, what will the cost be.

Chairwoman Fausel asked what would be the affect on the staff time concerning increase activity from vacant positions. Mr. Exham said that everyone is concerned about staff - they are very important, and we are taking a look at all programs citywide and are there things we are doing now that can be reduced and eliminated because we can't afford to do them. We may reduce some staff hours or permanently eliminate positions that are currently vacant. Everything we do is highly needed, a basic service or something that the citizens want. We have to determine priorities. This may only be for the short-term, if longer-term, we will have to further assess what is best.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if there are unfilled or underfilled positions at our Human Services Staff centers and if these vacant/underfilled positions have the potential for burdening the current staff. Mr. Exham said that there are currently no unfilled positions for Human Services, but if a social worker leaves, the position will be assessed to determine what is needed for our citizens.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if a position becomes vacant, it will be reevaluated, so if a staff person leaves a position or is promoted, is the position vacant? Mr. Exham, yes, and it will not be filled until we go through the review committee and determine that the position needs to be filled. Chairwoman Fausel asked if a Human Services staff person leaves, or any position leaves and we look to see if another person can take that load on, the burden on staff increases, what will be the ability of staff to complete the job? Mr. Exham said that they are discussing this issue now and discussed that he had a position that was vacated due to promotion and he and other people in the department took on the work from the position. We have to look every time a person leaves; there are economic realities that we are dealing with.

Chairwoman Fausel stated that training for staff, as well as keeping their accreditation up to date is very important and she hopes that the elimination of training is addressed very closely.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if the department closes facilities earlier, reduced hours leading to reduced salaries, would the person losing the hours go from full time to part-time and what are the implications of that? Mr. Exham said that they are contemplating looking at the hours of facilities, the majority of which are run by part-time staff during the evening and weekend hours. Essentially, using part-time staff saves money.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if volunteers had been discussed and did we still have volunteer coordinators. Mr. Exham said that we do not have volunteer coordinators, that is an additional duty taken on by staff at each of the centers. He added that they do use volunteers to help with the delivery of services. He also said that volunteers couldn't be in a facility alone, but have to have a full-time staff member due to liability issues.

Chairwoman Fausel asked about the Park Ranger program and how it works. Mr. Exham said that there currently is no program, but they are looking at a program where there is a ranger who is trained and can issue tickets in the parks and in the preserves. These rangers would have the ability, through radio or another communication tool, to contact police, should they be needed. The rangers help to keep the minor violations in the park in check.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if they would look at other programs in other cities and Mr. Exham said yes. Chairwoman Fausel asked about looking at the National Park Service and Mr. Exham said that they have rangers that have guns, so we wouldn't be using that model. Chairwoman Fausel asked who sets the standards for the rangers and Mr. Exham said that they are currently doing a cursory review and that the details will come later.

Chairwoman Fausel asked how Mr. Exham saw the Human Services Commission assisting he and staff during this discussion period. Mr. Exham said that staff will need to make hard decisions and the City Council may call on the Commission for feedback - being open, receptive, educated and prepared to discuss the issues with the City Council is most important.

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP'S) AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PLAN

Don Penfield, Community Services Advisor, provided a status report on CIP's and then introduced Charlie Deans, Principal of Planner's Ink, who presented on the status of the Community Services Master Plan.

Chairwoman Fausel asked about the two representatives in the focus group who were from non-profits and what the names of the non-profits were. Mr. Deans said that one was the Association for the Blind and that they will call Chairwoman Fausel with the name of the other non-profit.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if any youth were represented in the focus group. Mr. Deans said that youth from the Mayor's Youth Task Force as well as youth from the libraries, private and public schools were recruited for the focus group. Chairwoman Fausel asked if the youth were representative of the youth in our community and Mr. Deans said yes.

Chairwoman Fausel asked about the telephone survey and what were the criteria for the use of city facilities? Mr. Deans said that one question dealt with the need for additional facilities or services. The other question about facilities dealt with satisfaction, in the case of this question, those being surveyed would have had to use the facility(s) to have an opinion about them.

#### STAFF AND COMMISSION UPDATES (A.R.S. §38-431.02(K))

Connie James, Human Services Director, discussed the next Human Services meeting, to be held on January 23. At that meeting, Commissioners will receive the books of proposals that will have all the proposals submitted. Ms. James indicated that we have received 54 proposals and requests, well beyond what we have for funds. Ms. James also discussed the Scottsdale Ready to Learn binder that was distributed to Commission, as well as additional information provided by Chairwoman Fausel on the Ready to Learn conference.

Ms. James then introduced Mary Kay Rieke, Human Services Manager – Paiute Neighborhood Center, who reported on the following: **Civic Center Senior Center and Via Linda Senior Center** - Tax preparation has begun. Free AARP tax preparation at the senior centers will begin this upcoming February 1, 2003. Please telephone CCSC at 312-7702 and/or Via Linda at 312-5810 after January 13 to make an appointment for your free tax preparation. This upcoming year's Senior Olympics is just around the corner. Events ranging from table tennis, track and field, billiards and so many more activities to participate and enjoy. For more information please call the Civic Center Senior Center at 480-312-2375 or Via Linda Senior Center at 480-312-5810. **Community Assistance Office** - Section 8 staff received funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the additional 40 Housing Choice Vouchers related to the Opt-Out of the owner of the 68 unit multi-family property, Viviendas Scottsdale. HUD indicated that the pre-payment of the HUD insured mortgage and the closing of the property should be by December 30, 2002. Section 8 staff continues to conduct eligibility interviews with Viviendas Scottsdale tenants in preparation for the transition. The 34 residents are anticipated to become part of the Scottsdale Housing Agency's Section 8 Program effective January 2003. **Paiute Neighborhood Center and Vista del Camino** – Many thanks to all the donors for the toys, food and gifts donated for the Holiday Season and many thanks to the staff and volunteers who worked so hard to make the Holidays special for those in need.

#### OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC (A.R.S. §38-431.02)

Chairwoman Fausel made the open call to the public for items from the floor. There were none.

#### ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be brought before the Commission, Commissioner Resnick moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Broshar seconded. Chairwoman Fausel adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Beth Bossert, Recording Secretary.

Meets established criteria.

Connie James, Director  
Human Services